

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3564
ANSWERED ON:07.04.2003
RECLAMATION OF ARABLE LAND
BIKRAM KESHARI DEO

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) the area of arable land affected due to water logging and floods in the country including Orissa;
- (b) the programme for reclamation of arable land in Irrigated Command Area; and
- (c) the allocation of funds under Centrally Sponsored Development Programme ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI)

(a) to (c) The Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3564 TO BE REPLIED 7.4.2003 IN THE LOK SABHA

(a) The National Commission on Agriculture (in 1976) assessed that an area of about 6 Mha was waterlogged in the country in irrigated as well as unirrigated lands out of which the areas in Orissa is 0.06 Mha.

Ministry of Agriculture (in 1984-85) estimated that an area of 8.53 Mha was suffering from waterlogging in both irrigated and unirrigated areas which includes an area of 0.06 Mha in Orissa.

Working Group of Ministry of Water Resources (in 1991) estimated that an area of 2.46 Mha was suffering from the problem of water logging in irrigation commands out of which an area of 0.196 Mha is in Orissa.

Regarding arable lands affected due to floods, on an average (1953 to 2000), 3.55 Mha of cropped area is affected by floods in the country annually out of which average cropped area affected in Orissa is 0.275 Mha.

(b) A Component of reclamation of water logged areas in irrigated commands covered under CAD Programme has been introduced under the Centrally Sponsored CAD Programme since 1.4.96. Under this component, central assistance is provided to states in the form of grant on matching basis (i.e. in the ratio of State: Centre : : 50:50) subject to the limit of Rs. 6000 per ha of reclaimed area as central share.

(c) No separate funds are allocated for reclamation of waterlogged areas. However, Central Assistance under this activity is provided out of funds allocated for Centrally Sponsored Command Area Development Programme under which a sum of Rs. 15023 lakhs has been allocated during the year 2002-03.